

REMARKS

The Office Action dated November 9, 2007 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 2-10, 13-17, 20-21, and 23-24 have been to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention and claims 19 and 22 have been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested. As will be discussed below, it is also requested that all of claims 1-11, 13-17, 20-21, and 23-25 be found allowable as reciting patentable subject matter.

Claims 1-11, 13-17, 20-21, and 23-25 are pending and under consideration.

The Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for indicating allowable subject matter in claims 1-11, 13-14, and 25.

Applicant is grateful for the indication that claims 19 and 23 contain allowable subject matter, and would be allowable if amended to be in independent form. Accordingly, claim 15 is rewritten to include the features of allowed claim 19 and claim 23 is rewritten into independent form including the features of claims 15 and 22. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claims 15 and 23 are reconditioned for allowance.

Claims 15-17, 20-22, and 24 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,665,273 of Goguen, et al. in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0080794 of Reeves, et al.

The Office Action indicated that claims 19 and 23 were allowable, if amended to include the limitations of the base claim. Applicant has amended claim 15 to include the limitations of claim 19, claim 23 has been rewritten into independent form including the limitations of claims 15 and 22. As such, Applicant submits that claims 15 and 23, along with dependent claims 16, 17, 20, 21, and 24, are in condition for allowance. Claims 19 and 22 have been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer. Thus, the rejection of claims 15-17, 20-22, and 24 under §103 over Goguen and Reeves is considered moot.

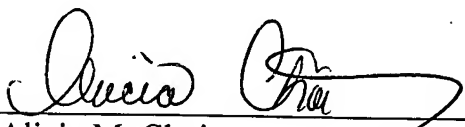
In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention recites subject matter which is neither disclosed nor suggested in the cited prior art. Applicants further submit that the subject matter is more than sufficient to render the claimed invention unobvious to a person of skill in the art. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that each of claims 1-11, 13-17, 20-21, and 23-25 be allowed and this application passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the Applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time.

Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,


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Enclosures: Petition for Extension of Time
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